

PATENT
Reply under 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
Group 1731

AMENDMENT(S) TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for the production of pulp for subsequent use in the production of a fiber web, including the steps of:

loading the undried pulp with an additive by way of a chemical precipitation reaction,
said loading step including both adding at least one of calcium oxide and calcium hydroxide to
5 the pulp and treating the pulp with carbon dioxide; and
drying the pulp for at least one of a subsequent utilization and a formulation for shipment.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including the step of bleaching the pulp.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the pulp is subjected to at least one bleaching agent.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said at least one bleaching agent is at least one of a peroxide, a chlorine, an oxygen and an ozone.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein said bleaching step includes a plurality of stages, at least one said stage including said at least one bleaching agent.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the pulp after said drying step possesses a dry content greater than 80%.

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7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein said dry content is greater than 85%.
8. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein said dry content is greater than 90%.
9. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein said dry content is greater than 95%.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including a step of refining the pulp after said loading step.
11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the pulp is loaded with a precipitated calcium carbonate.
12. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including the step of cooking at least one natural fiber.
13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the pulp is supplied in a form of at least one of bales and rolls for at least one of said subsequent utilization and said formulation for shipment.
14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the pulp is produced according to at least one of a sulfate process and a sulfite process.

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15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said fiber web is at least one of a paper web and a cardboard web.

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